



C A L I F O R N I A

Dairy Review

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CWT Program Gets Underway . . .

Exerpts from National Milk Producer's Federation News Release 9/16/03

After reviewing more than 2,500 bids from farmers interested in reducing or eliminating their milk output, CWT staff began the task of notifying those dairy producers whose bids were accepted in the CWT program. There were 2,038 bids submitted for the Herd Retirement program (under which a producer will be paid for selling his/her herd of milk cows), while 514 bids were submitted for the Reduced Production Marketing (RPM) program (under which producers will contract for a year to reduce their farm's milk output from 10% to 50%), for a grand total of 2,552 bids.

Region 1 of the U.S., the Northeast, submitted 17% of the 2,552 total bids: 350 for the Herd Retirement program, and 88 for the RPM program. Region 2, the Southeast, submitted 16% of the bids, 339 and 67, respectively. Region 3, the Midwest, submitted 34% of the bids, 707 and 170, respectively. Region 4, the Southwest, submitted 17% of the total bids, 361 and 81, respectively. And Region 5, the West, also submitted 17% of the bids, with an identical 361 and 81 bids for the Herd Retirement and RPM programs.

Based on an initial estimate of the herds involved in the bidding process, approximately 33,000 cows will be culled due to the Herd Retirement program helping to reduce the nation's milk output by 580 million pounds, while the RPM program will remove approximately 89 million pounds of production. That total exceeds the initial target goal of 660 million pounds of milk reductions from the combined programs.

Bidders accepted into the RPM program were contacted in September, giving them time to prepare to reduce their milk output during the one-year period of Oct. 1, 2003 through Sept. 30, 2004. In order to ensure the integrity of the herd retirement process, individual bidders will be contacted by the field auditors shortly before the auditors visit the farms whose bids have been accepted. That process will continue until all the farms have been audited, and the herds have been tagged for removal.

For more on CWT activities, visit www.cwt.coop.

Production, Prices, Quota Transfers, Alfalfa

August Milk Production

Milk production in California for August 2003 totaled 2.9 billion pounds, down 1.1 percent from August 2002. USDA's estimate for U.S. milk production for August 2003 in the 20 major dairy states is 12.1 billion pounds, down 0.8 percent from August 2002. Production per cow in the 20 major states averaged 1,563 pounds for August, 7 pounds above August 2002. ☀

Minimum Class Prices

Statewide average hundredweight prices

Class	August	Sept.	October
1	\$14.60	\$16.27	\$16.34
2	\$10.66	\$10.66	\$ N/A
3	\$10.50	\$10.50	\$ N/A
4a	\$ 9.95	N/A	\$ N/A
4b	\$14.03	N/A	\$ N/A

Federal Order and California Minimum Class 1 Prices

Average Hundredweight Prices

Regions	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Phoenix, Arizona	\$13.32	\$16.06	\$16.62
Southern California	\$14.73	\$16.41	\$16.47
Portland, Oregon	\$12.87	\$15.61	\$16.17
Northern California	\$14.46	\$16.14	\$16.20
Boston (Northeast)	\$14.22	\$16.96	\$17.52

Quota Transfer Summary

For August 2003, four dairy producers transferred 3,475 pounds of SNF quota. August quota sales averaged \$414 per pound of SNF (without cows), an average ratio of 2.45. For September 2003, five dairy producers transferred 6,336 pounds of SNF quota. September quota sales averaged \$420 per pound of SNF (without cows), an average ratio of 2.46. ☀

Alfalfa Update: September

Northern California: Premium and Supreme alfalfa was mostly steady with limited test. Some producers are saying that the final cutting tonnage will be light this year. Fair to Good alfalfa was steady with moderately heavy supply, mostly grass or rain damaged. Retail and Stable hay was steady to firm with many producers interested in higher quality hay - but supplies are limited. Exporters still showing interest in Sudan hay.

Southern California: Premium and Supreme alfalfa not well tested and the weather has been too warm for production of this quality of hay. Fair to Good alfalfa demand very little with moderate supplies available. Still seeing damage from white flies on new production. Exporters are interested in Sudan hay.

Supreme Hay Prices

Statewide average prices per ton

Area	8/29	9/5	9/12	9/19
Petaluma	\$150.00	—	—	—
North Valley ¹	\$140-152	\$148-150	\$140-158	\$140-150
South Valley ²	\$132-159	\$143-155	\$135-153	\$140-150
Chino Valley	—	—	—	—

¹ North Valley is Escalon, Modesto and Turlock areas.

² South Valley is Tulare, Visalia and Hanford areas.

Alfalfa Hay Sales/Delivery

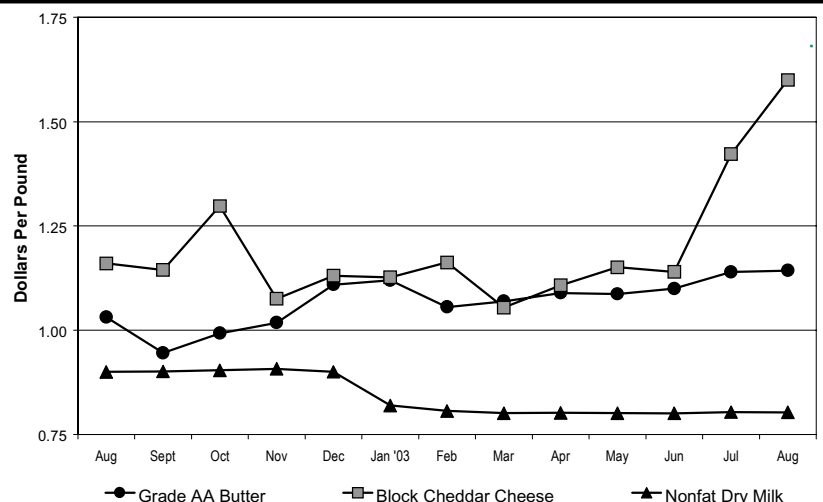
	August	September
Tons Sold ¹	229,851	179,101
Tons Delivered ²	82,220	94,275

¹ For current or future delivery.

² Contracted or current sales.

Alfalfa hay sales, deliveries and Supreme quality prices per ton, delivered to dairies, as reported by the USDA Market News Service, Moses Lake, WA, (509) 765-3611, <http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm>

Grade AA Butter, Block Cheddar Cheese, and Nonfat Dry Milk Prices Used in the Calculation of California Class 1 Milk Prices





Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) in California

Since May 2002, California confirmed bovine TB in three dairy herds - two in Tulare County and one in Kings County. All three herds were quarantined, the cattle destroyed, and the affected premises cleaned and disinfected. Cattle sold from or associated with each herd are being traced and tested.

On April 25, 2003, California was classified as TB **Modified Accredited Advanced (MAA)**. California can reapply for accreditation-free status in April 2005, provided no additional infected herds are detected.

Update

As of August 31, 2003, 441,600 cattle in 328 herds have been tested for bovine TB since this investigation began, and about 13,000 cattle have been depopulated.

Cumulative Since May 13, 2002	
Number of herds tested	328
Number of animals tested	441,600
Number of herds quarantined	3
Number of cattle destroyed	~13,000
Average number of field personnel	30

Over the next three months there will be a big push in area testing; resources have been redirected to the TB program now that staffing needs at the Exotic Newcastle Disease Task Force have significantly diminished.

TB in the US

Forty-six states are classified as Accredited TB-Free; three have been downgraded to MAA and one to Modified Advanced (MA).

On July 24, 2003, New Mexico lost its Free status after detecting two infected dairy herds. Both herds are under quarantine; extensive tracing and testing are ongoing.

On June 3, 2002, Texas lost its split-state status (part Free and part MAA) and the entire state became MAA, because two TB infected herds were found in the Free zone in 2001. Last month a purebred beef herd was diagnosed with TB. All three herds have been depopulated. On November 1, 2003, Texas will begin to TB test all dairy and some beef herds.

Michigan has struggled with TB in free-ranging white tailed deer since the early 90's. On October 20, 1999, Michigan lost its Free status and became a TB split status state. On June 22, 2000, the entire state lost its TB status and is now MA. TB has spread to infect 30 cattle herds; over 20 infected herds have been depopulated, and Michigan is conducting testing.

Impact on Livestock Producers

All breeding cattle and bison leaving California require official identification and a negative official TB test within 60 days of being moved, unless they are:

- Moved to slaughter at an approved slaughter plant,
- From an accredited herd with a certificate showing the herd completed all testing for accredited status with negative results within one year before moving.

The new TB requirements do not apply to sexually intact heifers moving to feedlots or steers and spayed heifers until **March 2004**. However, some states have more restrictive policies for moving cattle - always check with the state of destination for their requirements.

Agreements developed with neighboring states ease the TB testing requirements on breeding beef cattle moving interstate annually for grazing on approved Pasture-to-Pasture permits. Breeding beef cattle, 24 months of age and older, require a TB test within 12 months of application for the permit and subsequently every three years to continue to move annually until California's TB status changes.

As of August 15, 2003, California requires a TB test on all breeding dairy cattle entering the state.

California's Eradication Plan

CDFA, USDA and the cattle industry are working together to control and eradicate bovine TB from California:

- Test all dairies in Fresno, Kings and Tulare Counties (approximately 773,000 milking cows in 700 herds)
- Enhance slaughter surveillance, the primary method for detecting new cases of bovine TB, throughout California
- Enhance live animal testing procedures through training and education
- Utilize newly approved Gamma Interferon blood tests as a confirmatory TB test soon
- Restrict Mexican feeder cattle to "designated" pastures/feedlots (proposed for 2004 import season)
- Comply with USDA requirements for "Regionalization" if another infected herd is found
- Regain "Free" status by 2005
- Meet with state and national program leaders to enhance the national TB eradication plan


CDFA Animal Health Branch Offices

Sacramento (HQ)	916-654-1447
Modesto	209-491-9350
Ontario	909-947-4462
Redding	530-225-2140
Tulare	559-685-3500
Tulare TB Task Force	559-687-1158


USDA/APHIS/VS 916-857-6170 or 877-741-3690

Hearing Called On the Dairy Council of California

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has scheduled a hearing to receive comment from the milk industry and the general public on whether the Dairy Council of California should be continued. CDFA is required to conduct such a hearing four years from the last one, which took place in 1999. The hearing is scheduled as follows: 10:00 A.M. on Monday, October 20, 2003 at CDFA Offices located in the Sacramento Downtown Plaza Shopping Mall at 560 J Street, Room 397, Sacramento, California.

The purpose of the Dairy Council is to educate the public about the importance of milk and dairy products in a well balanced diet. These activities are funded by a mandatory assessment upon all California milk producers and milk processors. For more information regarding this hearing, please contact Steven Donaldson of CDFA at (916) 341-6005. 

Markets, Weather, and News (DTN) Available on Website

The Dairy Marketing Branch website at www.cdfa.ca.gov/dairy has a new link featuring "Markets, Weather, and News" where you can access the Data Transmission Network (DTN) information. Information is available on weather, futures markets, Ag Market News, Dairy News, Hay and Feed News, Washington Ag News, and Market News. Simply go to the left side of the branch website and click on "Markets, Weather, and News (DTN)" Let us know if the new site is helpful. 


Dry Skim Whey and the Class 4b Price

As a result of the January 2003 hearing, the Class 4b pricing formula was amended to include an explicit whey pricing factor, effective April 1, 2003. Dry skim whey prices, which are referenced in the pricing formula, have been dismal since April. From April through August, the price for dry skim whey has been lower than the make allowance for dry skim whey such that the whey pricing component has had a negative value (see table). September marks the first month in which the addition of dry skim whey to the Class 4b pricing formula has enhanced producer prices.


Effect of Dry Skim Whey Prices on the Class 4b Formula, April 2003 to Present			
	Class 4b, price per cwt.	Dry Skim Whey, price per lb.	Whey Contribution to Class 4b, price per cwt.
April, 2003	\$9.21	\$0.1460	-\$0.139
May	\$9.28	\$0.1360	-\$0.197
June	\$9.50	\$0.1366	-\$0.194
July	\$12.59	\$0.1468	-\$0.135
August	\$14.03	\$0.1685	-\$0.009
September	\$14.14	\$0.1803	\$0.060

Study Outlines Ways to Choose MILC Start Month

Excerpts from "Enrollment in the 2003/2004 MILC Program: Does Timing Matter?" by Brian W. Gould and John M. Hackney (Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and Wisconsin Center for Dairy Research University of Wisconsin-Madison)

The Marketing and Policy Briefing Paper published in September 2003 by the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI, explores possible methods for dairy producers to best choose their start month for the MILC program. The study details ways to examine historical price records to predict Class III and IV prices and to use the futures markets for Class III and IV milk to access the future price paths. This study is available online at the University of Wisconsin Dairy Marketing website: www.aae.wisc.edu/future, under the Publications header on the left side of the page. This site includes spreadsheet models that can be used by dairy producers to evaluate current and future possible MILC payments. 

Milk and Dairy Product Production Data Now Available on Website

The Dairy Marketing Branch website at www.cdfa.ca.gov/dairy has a new data section featuring monthly milk production, dairy products produced, Class 1 sales, and milk pooling data available in an excel format. Go to the main page of the Dairy Marketing Branch listed above, choose Dairy Publications and Data; Dairy Data; and then download the excel file for milk production, dairy product processing, and milk pooling data. The data will be updated monthly as soon as the data becomes available. 

Notice of Drug Treated Livestock


By Steven D. Wong, Reprinted from October 2002 California Dairy Review

Dairy animals often require medications to treat illness or health conditions that affect optimal milk production. While the dairy producer must have the ability to maintain the health of their animals, they need to be aware of the potential for drug residues ending up in milk or in the meat of animals slaughtered for human consumption.

Drug residues in livestock slaughtered for consumption is a major concern of the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). There is potential for health effects on individuals who are allergic to certain drugs as well as the potential for microorganisms to build resistance to antibiotics that are also used to treat human infections. The dairy producer is the primary individual who can prevent residues from getting into milk or meat.

Both milk and meat are monitored and tested for drug residues by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the U. S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). When drug residues over the established tolerances are detected by FSIS, they are reported to the FDA and CDFA's Agricultural Commodities and Regulatory Services' (ACRS) Feed and Livestock Drug Program. These agencies have responsibility to investigate the source of the residues in meat and can pursue regulatory actions including citation, injunction or legal suits against the producer to prevent further occurrences.

While some regulatory actions have been required to seek compliance, the Feed and Livestock Drug Program encourages dairy producers to be cognizant of the Livestock Drug law and employ procedures for proper identification of animals and drug treatments necessary to maintain healthy animals. When animals are treated, records need to be kept to document the treatment, i.e. drug, date of treatment(s), withdrawal period for milk and slaughter. Animals should not be sent to slaughter before the withdrawal time has elapsed. If individual drug treated animals must be removed from the herd and sold, the producer is responsible for notifying the buyer of drug treatment and that the animal has not been fully withdrawn from the drug. The CDFA ACRS Branch has forms available for this purpose. The "Notification of Drug Treated Livestock" form (513-037) is available by contacting Dr. Stephen Beam of the ACRS Branch at (916) 445-0444.

Be responsive and do your part to keep the food you produce safe for the consumer. 

National Dairy Situation and Outlook – USDA Estimates

Milk Production and Cow Numbers

Monthly: Compared to 2002, USDA estimates that overall milk production across the U.S. was down 1.0% in August, led by Idaho's 6.1% growth in milk production (on 15,000 more cows and 40 more pounds per cow). California's estimated production was down 1.2% (on 45,000 more cows and 70 less pounds per cow). Among other western states, Arizona was down 6.7%; New Mexico up 3.2%; and Washington down 1.8%. Five of the top 10 states reported a decrease: New York -1.4%; California -1.2%; Washington -1.8%; Wisconsin -0.2%, and Pennsylvania -4.6%.


Quarterly: For the second quarter of 2003 compared to the first quarter of 2003, U.S. milk cow numbers were down 0.4% at 9.116 million, production per cow was up 2.6%; the net effect was a 2.3% increase in milk production to 43.9 billion pounds. USDA projects that for the third quarter of 2003 compared to the second quarter of 2003, U.S. milk cow numbers will decrease 41,000 cows to 9.075 million cows, production per cow will be down 4.7%; the net effect would be a 5.0% decrease in milk production to 41.7 billion pounds.

Milk Prices

Comparing the second quarter of 2003 to the first quarter of 2003, U.S. average milk prices were down \$0.30/cwt. to \$11.07/cwt. USDA projects that for the third quarter of 2003, U.S. average milk prices will be up \$1.85-2.00/cwt. compared to the second quarter; including a \$3.20-3.50/cwt. Class 4b price increase and a \$0.25-0.55/cwt. Class 4a price increase.

Utility Cow Prices


Comparing the second quarter of 2003 to the first quarter of 2003, average U.S. utility cow prices were up \$6.20/cwt. to a national average of \$46.52/cwt. USDA projects that utility cow prices will average \$49-50 in the third quarter of 2003.

Information from the USDA-NASS publication "Milk Production" and the USDA-ERS publication: "Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook." 

CMAB Annual District Meetings


The California Milk Advisory Board (CMAB) invites all milk producers to attend one of the annual information and nomination meetings held throughout the state. These meetings will update producers on CMAB's advertising and research activities. Also, nominations for serving on the CMAB Board will be conducted. Following is a schedule of the meetings. All of these gatherings are dinner meetings that will be preceded by a no-host social hour. The social hour for all locations, except Chino, will begin at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m. The social hour in Chino begins at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 7:00 p.m.

- **Fallbrook** - Wednesday, Oct. 22, Pala Mesa Resort
- **Chino** - Thursday, Oct. 23, USA Yanks Air Museum
- **Bakersfield** – Tuesday, Oct. 28, Double Tree Hotel
- **Tulare** – Wednesday, Oct. 29, Heritage Complex
- **Selma** – Thursday, Oct. 30, Spike N' Rail
- **Modesto** – Monday, Nov. 3, Ray Simon Criminal Justice Training Center
- **Lodi** – Wednesday Nov. 5, Wine & Roses
- **Fortuna** – Wednesday, Nov. 12, River Lodge
- **Petaluma** – Thursday, Nov. 13, Hotel Petaluma
- **Willows** – Tuesday, Nov. 18, Glenn Golf & Country Club


Please refer to your CMAB mail invitation or call (209) 525-6875 if you need more information. 

Tulare County Still Ranks As the Largest Dairy County in the U.S.

As reported by the Kansas City Market Administrator's Office in their September 2003 Marketing Service Bulletin, areas with growth in milk marketings continue to influence the dairy industry. If all federal order and California counties with milk marketings were ranked in ascending order, it would require 1,734 counties to equal California. These 1,734 counties include those marketing up to 9.7 million pounds during May 2003 and counties with approximately 6,000 cows.

California's Tulare County is the largest dairy county in the U.S. with May 2003 milk marketings of 801.3 million pounds. In order to equal Tulare County milk marketings for that month, it would require the combined milk marketings from the smallest 1,262 counties or all counties which marketed under 2.2 million pounds of milk. 


CDFA Seeks Beef Council Nominations

The Department is asking individuals and organizations affiliated with the California beef industry to submit nominations for potential board members of the California Beef Council. The Council, which is funded by assessments on cattle and calves marketed in California, administers a program of promotion, education and research for the beef industry. Available positions include members and alternates who would represent meat packers and producers of feeder cattle, range cattle and dairy cattle. Nominations should be mailed to Glenn Yost of the CDFA Marketing Branch, 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814. Nominations must be postmarked no later than October 17, 2003. For more information, contact Bruce Berven of the Beef Council at (925) 484-2333 or Glenn Yost of CDFA at (916) 341-6005. 

National Mastitis Council Resource for Mastitis Control

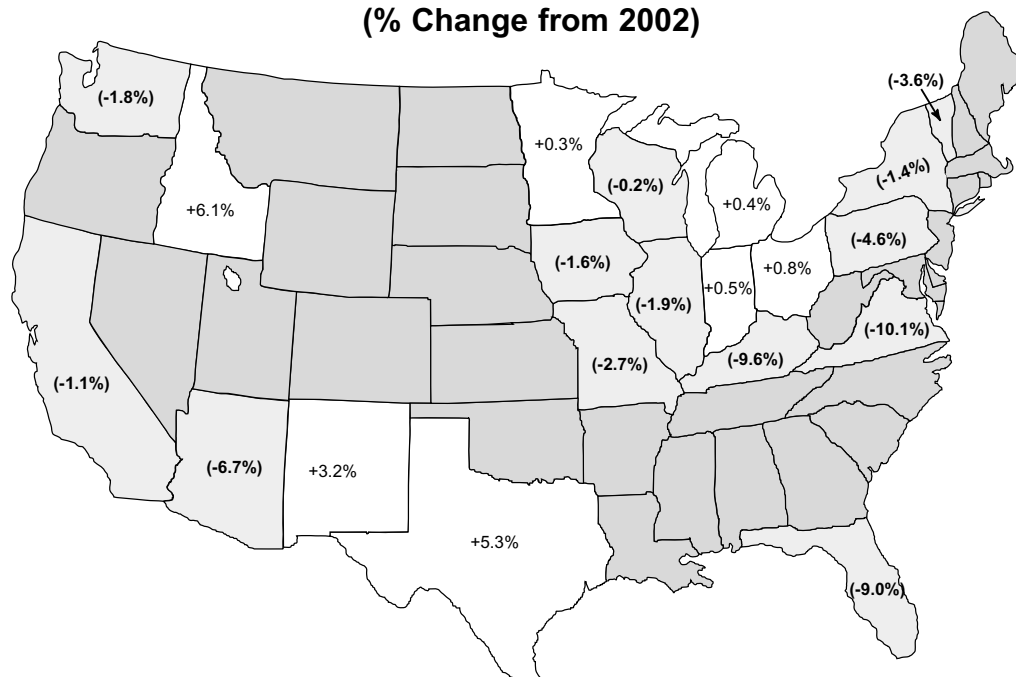
The National Mastitis Council has developed a 10-step program for mastitis control which outlines procedures and checklists to help develop a mastitis-control program for your dairy. You can download it for free at: <http://www.nmconline.org/docs/NMC10steps.pdf>

The following are excerpts from the 10-step program, Section 3:

- Apply pre-milking teat disinfectant that completely covers the teat skin for at least 30 seconds or use a sanitizing solution to wash each cow's teats for at least 10-20 seconds.
- Examine foremilk and palpate glands to facilitate early detection of clinical caes.
- Dry teats after the appropriate contact time for pre-disinfectant or immediately following washing.
- Use single-service paper towels or properly cleaned single use cloth towels for each step. Remember - one cow, one cloth.
- Maintain clean hands or wear gloves during the milking process to limit spread of infection.
- Attach teat cups squarely and level with the udder within 60 seconds of udder preparation.
- Adjust cluster during milking to prevent liner slips.
- Shut off vacuum to the claw before removing cluster; keep machine stripping to a minimum.
- Apply teat disinfectant immediately following teat cup removal.
- Pre- and post-milking teat disinfectants should be selected based on documented efficacy data on the prevalent mastitis pathogens found in the herd.
- Assure complete coverage of the teats with the disinfectant. To optimize mastitis control and reduce costs, teat dipping is the preferred method to apply teat disinfectants. 

August Milk Production in the Top 20 States

(% Change from 2002)



For the U.S. overall, comparing August 2003 to August 2002:

- Milk production during August was down 1.0%
- The number of cows on farms was 9.075 million head, down 82,000 head
- Production per cow averaged 1,542 pounds, 1 pound less than August 2002
- Thirteen of the top twenty producing states showed an decrease in milk production

Milk Production Cost Index for California

Month	North Coast 1/		North Valley		South Valley		Southern California		Statewide Weighted Average	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
<i>Dollars per Hundredweight</i>										
January	13.86	13.90	12.97	13.00	12.90	12.68	13.10	12.95	13.0110	12.8796
February	13.86	13.90	12.97	13.00	12.90	12.68	13.10	12.95	13.0110	12.8796
March	13.91	13.98	12.50	12.52	12.49	12.19	12.98	13.12	12.6245	12.5197
April	13.91	13.98	12.50	12.52	12.49	12.19	12.98	13.12	12.6245	12.5197
May	12.99	13.48	12.50	12.53	12.94	12.34	13.05	13.82	12.8019	12.6875
June	12.99	13.48	12.50	12.53	12.94	12.34	13.05	13.82	12.8019	12.6875
July			12.59		13.57		13.42		13.1835	
August			12.59		13.57		13.42		13.1835	
September			12.89		13.39		13.70		13.2803	
October			12.89		13.39		13.70		13.2803	
November			12.99		12.78		13.26		12.9767	
December			12.99		12.78		13.26		12.9767	

1/ Beginning with the January-February 2003 cost period, Del Norte/Humboldt and North Bay cost regions are combined and reported as the North Coast Region.

Hundredweight Pool Prices

Month	Quota	Overbase
March '02	\$12.37	\$10.67
April	\$12.41	\$10.71
May	\$12.06	\$10.36
June	\$11.60	\$ 9.90
July	\$11.28	\$ 9.58
August	\$11.48	\$ 9.78
September	\$11.58	\$ 9.88
October	\$11.84	\$10.14
November	\$11.44	\$ 9.74
December	\$11.48	\$ 9.78
January '03	\$11.40	\$ 9.70
February	\$11.11	\$ 9.41
March	\$10.93	\$ 9.23
April	\$11.02	\$ 9.32
May	\$11.05	\$ 9.35
June	\$11.17	\$ 9.47
July	\$12.72	\$11.02
August	\$13.96	\$12.26

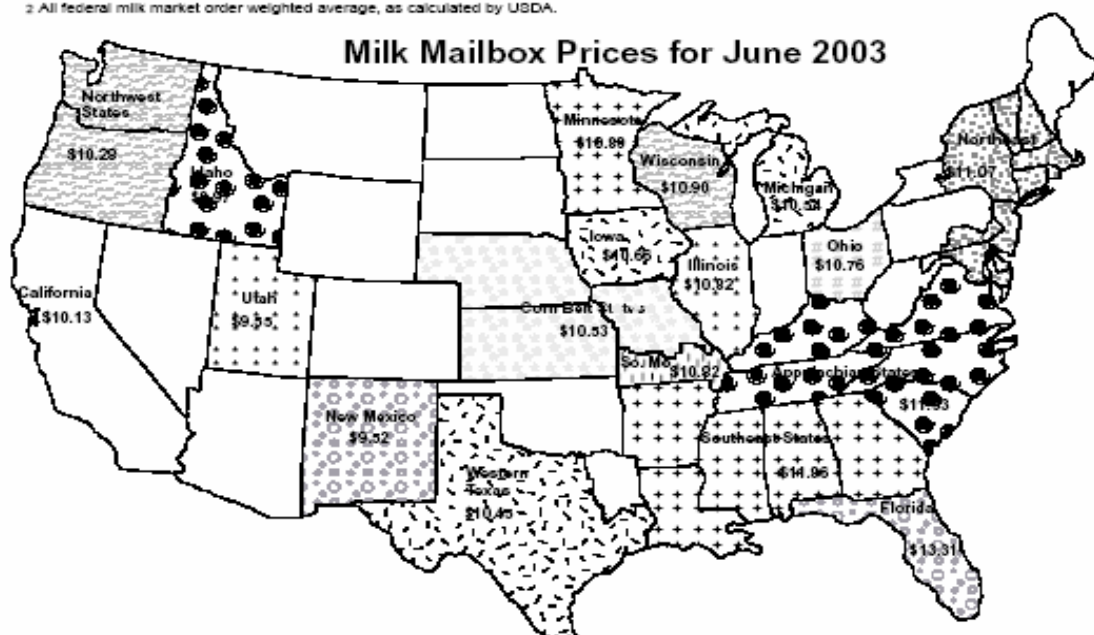
Milk Mailbox Prices (Prices Per Hundredweight)

Milk Mailbox Prices In Dollars per Hundredweight

	December	January '03	February	March	April	May	June
California ¹	\$10.68	\$10.64	\$10.33	\$10.06	\$10.26	\$10.13	\$10.13
USDA ²	\$11.69	\$11.61	\$11.19	\$10.73	\$10.79	\$10.83	\$10.77

¹ California mailbox price calculated by CDFA.


² All federal milk market order weighted average, as calculated by USDA.



In June 2003, mailbox milk prices for selected reporting areas in Federal milk orders averaged \$10.77 per cwt., \$0.06 less than the figure for the pre month. The component tests of producer milk in June 2003 were: butterfat, 3.57%; protein, 2.96%; and other solids 5.73%. On an individual reporting basis, mailbox prices decreased in 12 reporting areas and increased in 5 reporting areas, and ranged from \$13.31 in Florida to \$9.52 in New Mexico. In June 2002, the Federal milk market order all-area average mailbox price was \$11.33, \$0.56 higher.

Note: Effective with the January 2003 report, the Iowa reporting area has been removed from the Corn Belt States reporting area and is reported separately. The Northern Midwest reporting area has been added to the Corn Belt States reporting area.

In accordance with the California Government Code and ADA requirements, this publication can be made available in an alternative format by contacting Karen Dapper at (916) 341-5988, by email at dairy@cdfa.ca.gov, or contacting TDD 1-800-735-0193.


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 Outside California 1-916-442-MILK
Dairy Marketing Branch:
 Phone (916) 341-5988; Fax (916) 341-6697
 Website: www.cdfa.ca.gov/dairy
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